Remarks.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1, 3-5, 7, 10, 11, 13, 14, 20 and 21 have been amended. No claims have been cancelled. Therefore, claims 1-24 are presented for examination.

Claims 1-24 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being anticipated by BOCCON-GIBOD (2001/0016836) in view of Angelo (U.S. Patent No. 5,944,821). Applicant submits that the present claims are patentable over any combination of BOCCON-GIBOD and Angelo.

BOCCON-GIBOD discloses system and method of distributing music and video signals over a network. The system includes a client. The client includes client helper software having a client manager module, playback module, codec units, encryption/decryption modules, key store, key store lock and device manager. The playback module communicates with the codec units to decompress music and video content before playback. See BOCCON-GIBOD at [0025 – 0026].

Angelo discloses a computer system that incorporates the capability to protect against the execution of unauthorized or modified code in real time. A secure hash table is provided that contains a secure hash value for each program that the user wants to track. The hash table is stored in protected memory that can only be accessed when the computer system is in a system management mode. Execution of a secured application is then predicated on its current hash value matching a corresponding hash value in the secure hash table. When a user attempts to execute a secured application, a system management interrupt (SMI) is generated. The SMI places the computer system in a system management mode, causing an SMI handler routine to be executed. The SMI handler first generates a current hash value for

the program to be executed. Next, the SMI handler checks the stored hash table for an entry for the secured application. If a hash value entry is found, it is compared with the newly-calculated hash value for the secured application. In the event the two values match, the integrity of the application is guaranteed and it is loaded into memory and executed. For security-sensitive applications, the entire application or a portion of it is loaded into system management mode memory (hereinafter "SMM memory") prior to running the execution. If the two values do not match, the user is alerted to the discrepancy and may be given the option to update or override the stored hash table entry by entering an administrative password. See Angelo at col. 4, ll. 26 – col. 5, ll. 5.

Claim 1 of the present application recites an integrity agent to receive a first voucher describing the integrity of a codec and a second voucher describing the integrity of one or more functions that are to be accessed by the codec. Applicant submits that there is no disclosure or suggestion in either BOCCON-GIBOD or Angelo of a first voucher describing the integrity of a codec. Angelo discloses predicating execution of a secured application on its current hash value matching a corresponding hash value in a secure hash table. Applicant submits, however, that such a function is not equivalent to a first voucher describing the integrity of a codec.

Moreover, nowhere in the cited references is there disclosed or suggested a codec accessing one or more functions. As a result, there is no disclosure or suggestion of second voucher describing the integrity of one or more functions that are to be accessed by the codec. Thus, claim 1 is patentable over BOCCON-GIBOD in view of Angelo.

Claims 2-6 depend from claim 1 and include additional features. Therefore, claims 2-6 are also patentable over BOCCON-GIBOD in view of Angelo.

Claim 7 recites an integrity agent to receive a first voucher describing the integrity of a codec and a second voucher describing the integrity of one or more functions that are to be accessed by the codec. Thus, for the reasons described above with respect to claim 1, claim 7 is also patentable over BOCCON-GIBOD in view of Angelo. Since claims 8-12 depend from claim 7 and include additional features, claims 8-12 are also patentable over BOCCON-GIBOD in view of Angelo.

Claim 13 recites verifying the authenticity of the first component of the system module at an integrity agent by computing a digest of a memory image of a first component. Applicant submits that BOCCON-GIBOD or Angelo do not disclose or suggest computing a digest of a memory image of a first component. Accordingly, claim 13 is patentable over BOCCON-GIBOD in view of Angelo. Because claims 14-19 depend from claim 13 and include additional features, claims 14-19 are also patentable over BOCCON-GIBOD in view of Angelo.

Claim 20 recites causing a processor unit to verify the authenticity of a first component of the system module at an integrity agent by computing a digest of a memory image of a first component. Thus, for the reasons described above with respect to claim 13, claim 20 is also patentable over BOCCON-GIBOD in view of Angelo. Since claims 21-24 depend from claim 20 and include additional features, claims 21-24 are also patentable over BOCCON-GIBOD in view of Angelo.

Applicant submits that the rejections have been overcome and that the claims are in condition for allowance. Accordingly, applicant requests the rejections be withdrawn and the claims be allowed.

The Examiner is requested to call the undersigned at (303) 740-1980 if there remains any issue with allowance of the case.

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,

BLAKELY, SOKOLOFF, TAYLOR & ZAFMAN LLP

Date: November 4, 2004

Mark L. Watson
Reg. No. 46,322

12400 Wilshire Boulevard
7th Floor
Los Angeles, California 90025-1026
(303) 740-1980